

Amendments to The Specification:

In the specification: Please add a line containing the words "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION" to the top of page 5 of the specification.

Please replace the third paragraph of the Description of the Preferred Embodiment, beginning on line page 8, line 13, through page 9, line 11, with the following corrected replacement paragraph:

Fig. 3 shows a typical cylindrical ballistic tracer platform **10** holding the tracer element **11** in its cylindrical coaxial cavity. The ballistic tracer platform **10** is shown "upside-down" so that the contours of the concave-shaped bottom **15**, can be more easily seen. The ballistic tracer platform **10** has a nose **19**, which can be flat, as shown, or shaped to alter the ballistic properties of the ballistic tracer platform **10**. The ballistic tracer platform **10** can be adjusted in size, shape, and materials used, depending on the shotgun gauge used; it can perform with different applications and shot types. The ballistic tracer platform **10** can be made with a diameter ranging from 0.2 inches to 1.25 inches, depending on the bore size for the shotgun in which it will be used; it can be used in all shotgun gauges, including 4, 8, 10, 12, 16, 20, 28, and 410, in both single and double barrel shotguns. The ballistic tracer platform **10** is made from a resilient material that can withstand the high pressures from expanding gases and compression forces. Examples of such materials include aluminum, brass, lead, neoprene, nylon, polyethylene, polyurethane, rubber, steel, polytetrafluoroethylene (known as Teflon®) ~~Teflon~~, and titanium; other metals and plastics may be used. The ballistic tracer platform **10** can be made by injection molding or turning

processes as in screw machines. The ballistic tracer platform **10** can be introduced into standard shotgun shells by using existing loading processes. Alternatively, if a re-loader or hobbyist wishes to use a standard shot shell hand-loading process, he could substitute the ballistic tracer platform **10** for currently-available wad and gas seal elements.